

# Attention FDA

0420 '00 MAY -4 11:13

It came to my attention that the FDA is being asked to take away my right to sign a medical waiver before purchasing a hearing aid. Instead I would be forced to have a medical exam or hearing test. Here's my views and/or experiences on several related questions?

1. Should I be forced to have a medical exam and/or hearing test before purchasing a hearing aid? If so, should the FDA pay for the exam?

It is my experience that supports a hearing test by a qualified audiologist at the stage in life that one realizes the need for hearing aids, first having verified by a medical exam that there are no underlying physical conditions that impinge upon hearing ability.

Thereafter, as increased hearing aid strength is needed because of gradual degradation of hearing ability, I see no need, whatsoever, to make acquisition of hearing aids dependent upon an audiologist's supporting tests. An experienced user of hearing aids should be free to procure as he/she sees fit, for trial. I am confident that the judgment of these persons, as to whether or not further testing is prudent, should prevail. My wife and I certainly feel that we are competent to make that judgment.

3. Should the FDA take away my Constitutional Right, affirmed by the Supreme Court, to decide for myself my medical exams and treatment?

NO

4. Should I be allowed to purchase hearing aids by mail as I choose?

Most certainly yes. I can judge whether or not a product that I am allowed to try on a money-back guarantee does more harm than good.

Signed by:

RB Wilson

Date: 23 March 2000

N-0372

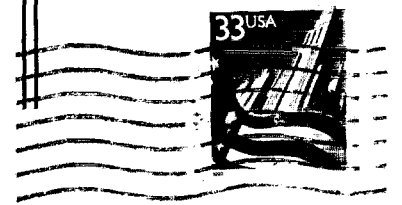
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